JMGS-Gr. I Test by State Bank of India

791. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to conduct JMGS Gr. I test for eligible SC/ST/General candidates by the State Bank of India, LHO, New Delhi during 1992;

(b) if so by when it is likely to be held;

(c) whether it is a fact that consent from the departmental candidates belonging to the SC/ST cadre has not been taken in writing to appear for this examination during the last three years, 1989, 1990 and 1991;

(d) if so, what are the details of such candidates whose consent was not obtained;

(e) if the answer to part (c) be in the affirmative, whether their names will be considered for JMGS-Gr. I test to be held in the near future; and

(f) if a SC/ST candidate is not willing for cadre promotion, what are the reasons for his name not being considered for JMGS-Gr. I post?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (f) State Bank of India has advised that it has not fixed any date for a written test for promotion from Clerical cadre to the officers cadre, Junior Management Grade Scale-I, but proposes to hold it during July-August 1992. All eligible employees of the bank (general/ Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe) will be called to appear in the test.

It is not a practice to obtain specific consent either from General candidates or those belonging to SC/ST communities for appearing in the test. However, their Willingness to proceed out of their present places of posting in the event of their being promoted, is obtained. The last test was held on the 6th August, 1989 and letter of willingness was obtained from all the eligible candidates. No promotional test was held in 1990 and 1991.

Any employee (General/SC/ST), who is not willing for promotion is debarred from appearing in the test/promotion.

Excise Duty Concessions on Purchase of Taxi

792. DR. Z.A. AHMAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that when new cars are purchased for taxi purpose with permit, concession are given in excise duty and other benefits are also extended;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether his attention has been drawn a report published in 'Nav Bharat Times' Delhi dated the 22nd April, 1992 in this regard;

(d) if so, whether any investigation is being made; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Saloon cars registered as taxis attract a concessional rate of 30% Basic Exise Duty Special Excise Duty of Basic Excise Duty under Notification No. 162/86 dated 1-3-1986, subject to the conditions specified in the said Notification as against normal duty of 60% Basic Excise Duty +10% Special Excise Duty of Basic Excise Duty applicable to passenger cars.

(c) Yes, Sir. However, the Department was already aware of this matter and the Director General of Anti-Evasion had initiated survey action in this connection early in March 1992.

(d) and (e) Directorate General of Anti-Evasion, New Delhi have issued instructions to the field formations to alert them about the alleged misuse of the concessions extended for saloon cars used as taxis. The field formations have also been advised to conduct a survey by contacting vehicle registration authorities so as to detect cases of misuse of concessions.